GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2486
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2005
MANNUAL SYSTEM OF TEA AUCTION
Ponnuswamy Shri E.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tea-Manufacturers Association of India has requested the Government to re-introduce the manual system of auctioning of tea in South India;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the prices of tea crashed after introduction of compulsory auctions in the South;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has enquired into the reasons thereof;

(f) if so, the findings thereof; and

(g) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a)& (b): The United Planters` Association of Southern India (UPASI) has suggested that Tea Board may pennit the manual auction system as a temporary measure till the electronic system is fully stabilized. The Tea Board has advised the auction organisers to trade leaf grade of teas through electronic system and the dust grades manually.

(c): No directives have been issued by the Tea Board regarding compulsory sale of tea through auctions.

(d)to(g): Do not arise.